Anthropological Survey of India

1703. PROF. SOURENDRA BHATTACHARJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some stations were sanctioned to be set up by the Anthropological Survey of India during the Sixth Five Year Plan period;

(b) if so, what is the number of Field Stations set during the said period; and

(c) the reasons for the shortfall in the target, if any, in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) Yes, Sir. Eight field stations were sanctioned in the last year of the Sixth Five Year Plan/beginning of the Seventh Plan.

(b) and (c) When details were worked out deficiencies came to light in terms of failure to identify field projects and provide for infrastructure and ministerial staff. There were delays in recruitment of personnel and difficulties in security accommodation. A Committee which reviewed the programme has since revised the concept in 1989 with field stations being staffed from Regional Centres and being made mobile. On this basis field stations are currently functioning.

New Environment Policy

1704. SHRI BAIKUNTHA NATH SAHU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce new environment policy;

(b) if so, what changes are proposed to be made in the existing policy;

(c) what are the main problems or flaws in the present policy; and

(d) by when the new policy is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (d) The Government propose to issue, for the first time, an environmental policy statement as a part of our national conservation strategy.

Manufacture of Hi-tech components utilised by Defence sector

1705. SHRI BAIKUNTHA NATH SAHU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal for the manufacture of hi-tech components utilised in Defence sector;

(b) if so, whether any joint venture projects are proposed to be set up with foreign countries for manufacturing such high-tech components; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) to (c) The requisite information is being collected.

Air and water pollution by industrial units in Orissa

1706. SHRI BAIKUNTHA NATH SAHU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of cases of air and water pollution by industrial units in Orissa which had come to the notice of Government during last three years;

(b) whether any specific steps have been taken by Government to check air and water pollution; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?